

REFLECTIONS



NEWS OF INTEREST FROM REDEEMER COLLEGE - A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY - 777 HWY 53 E., ANCASTER, ONTARIO, L9K 1J4

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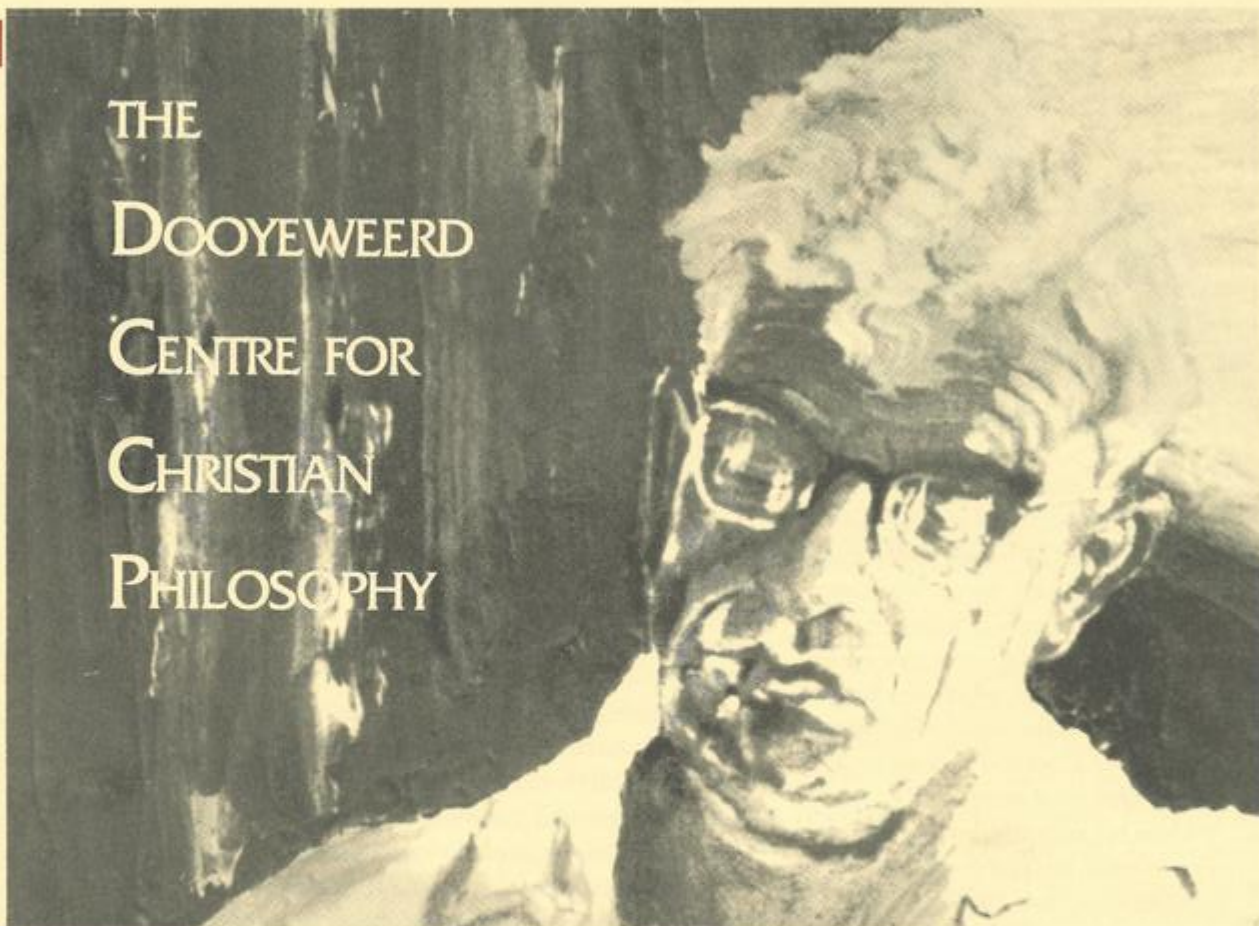
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THE DOOYEWEERD CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY



by David Koyzis
(article shared with *Christian Week*)

On Saturday, 5 November, 1994, the Dooyeweerd Centre for Christian Philosophy officially opened at Redeemer College in a ceremony attended by several hundred people from around North America and the world. The Centre represents the culmination of a longstanding effort to bring to a wider North American audience the writings of Herman

Dooyeweerd, especially those yet to be translated into English.

A renowned Christian philosopher in the Netherlands, Dooyeweerd lived from 1894 to 1977 and spent most of his long academic career at the Free University in Amsterdam. He developed a systematic philosophy which has come to be known as the Philosophy of the Cosmonomic Idea. Working out of the tradition of the great statesman and theologian, Abraham Kuyper

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FROM PRESIDENT COOPER



As we near the end of the first semester of this academic year, there is much to be thankful for. We are again serving more students than the previous year. First-year students are adjusting to a university setting; prospective graduates are preparing applications for employment or further study. Students at all levels are absorbed in their courses and co-curricular activities.

More importantly, among those on campus there is a real evidence of love for and commitment to Jesus Christ as we go about our task of teaching, learning and supporting Christian higher education at Redeemer College. It is truly a privilege to be able to work and study in such an environment.

Faculty and students have the free-

dom to explore the creation in the light of God's Word. Wisdom and insight are developed; minds are stretched; faith and commitment are fostered; lives are shaped. What an opportunity we have to contribute to the extension of God's Kingdom by means of Christian scholarship and its application in the teaching of students who are preparing for various kinds of service under the Lordship of Christ.

This season of advent reminds us of God's great gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world, who is Lord of all and gives life and meaning also to academic work. Empowered by His Spirit, may we encourage one another to renewed faithfulness in His service, wherever He has placed us, so that we shine as bright lights.

Thank you also for the support and encouragement that you give to us. And please continue to remember to uphold us in your prayers, that we may be strengthened as we swim against the secular mainstream in higher education. As the conflict between obedience to God's designs and the forces of darkness becomes more apparent in various areas of our society, pray that we may be bold and effective in our witness. May the Lord also grant you His blessing at this time when we commemorate the birth of His Son, our Saviour.

♦♦ Dr. Justin D. Cooper
November 18, 1994

REFLECTIONS is published four times a year by the Community Relations Department of Redeemer College.

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Redeemer College is a Reformed Christian Liberal Arts university in Ancaster, Ontario, Canada--just an hour's drive from Toronto and Buffalo.

For more information about Redeemer College, please call (905) 648-2131. Or, if you are calling for information about Admissions and you live in Canada, OH, MI, PA, or NY, call us toll-free at 1-800-263-6467.

COMING EVENTS

December 24- Jan. 2 - Redeemer College will be closed for Christmas.

January 13 - Piano concert with Redeemer Alumnus Fred DeHaan

January 18, 19 - Staley Lectures with Dr. Mark Noll.

January 27 - Student Senate Banquet.

January 28 - Organ Concert: Christiaan Teeuwssen performs works from the Romantic era at Centenary United Church, 24 Main Street in Hamilton.

February 3 - Student organ concert with Matthew Ottaway.

February 10 - Inauguration ceremony for Professor Wayne Norman.

February 17 - Student vocal Concert with Soprano Benita Wolters.

February 24-March 1 - Concert Choir Tour of Southwestern Ontario

March 5 - Choir Homecoming Concert., 8:30 p.m. ♦♦

Copies of Justin Cooper's Inaugural Address, **"Faithful Scholarship in a Post-Modern Context"** are available now from the Redeemer College Bookstore for \$1.25

MORE RECOGNITION FOR REDEEMER'S EDUCATION DEGREE



by Hanna Julien de Boer

Since Redeemer College began offering the Bachelor of Education Degree in 1991, Redeemer has been producing excellent teachers that are hired quickly upon graduation; more than 80% a year find immediate placement—more than 90% some years. Redeemer College's Bachelor of Christian Education degree qualifies graduates to receive the Christian School Teacher's Certificate (CSTC) offered by the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools (OACS) and its sister organization, the Ontario Christian School Teacher's Association (OCSTA), a document which at once recognizes the value of a teacher's training and facilitates entry into OACS schools. Because of the CSTC, most of Redeemer's graduates have been seeking, and finding employment in Ontario Alliance schools. The Alliance—a member organization of Christian Schools International (CSI)—is a group of schools which are interdenominational but are based on Reformed thought and attended primarily by students of a Reformed background.

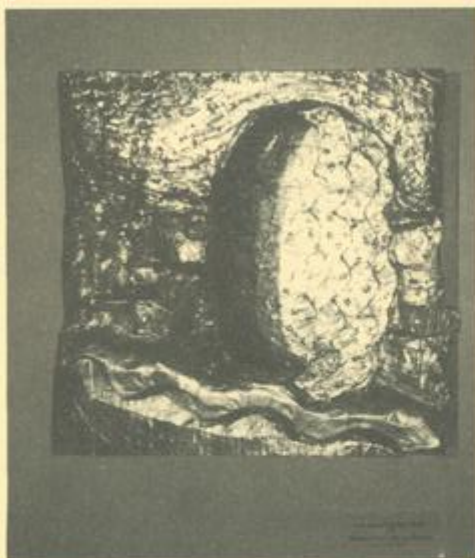
A number of graduates, however, especially those from evangelical churches, have found work in ACSI (Association for Christian Schools International) schools in Ontario—the ACSI being a group of independent Christian schools more broadly evangelical in their denominational make-up than CSI schools. But until now, the ACSI has not formally recognized Redeemer's degree as qualification for the ACSI equivalent to the CSTC. So, although students with training at Redeemer College have proved

valuable to individual ACSI schools, the ACSI as a whole has not recognized our degree.

Professor John Stronks of the Education Department initiated contact with the ACSI in order to change this. After discussion, correspondence and the ACSI's analysis of the details of Redeemer's program, Professor Stronks received a letter from Ollie E. Gibbs, Vice-President for Academic Affairs at the ACSI headquarters in Colorado. In his letter, Mr. Gibbs stated that, based on Redeemer's agreement to include readings in their curriculum which acquaint students with the ACSI philosophy of Christian schooling, the "ACSI will accept all course work and degrees from Redeemer College towards ACSI certification." Education graduates need only complete an application and an affirmation of faith in order to receive a Standard level (5 year) certificate from the ACSI.

So now it will be as easy for a Redeemer graduate to find work in an ACSI school as it always has been in an OACS school. Dorothy Sanderson, an education student at Redeemer College is very happy about this. She feels that it will allow her to teach in a broader range of schools: "Christian schools are important and being permitted to teach in both the OACS and ACSI shows that we value Christian education, no matter what the denomination." Her fiancé Steve Bock, a fellow education student, agrees. He says: "I am not from a Reformed background, but I want to teach in a Christian school. This provides me with more opportunities and opens more doors." ♦♦

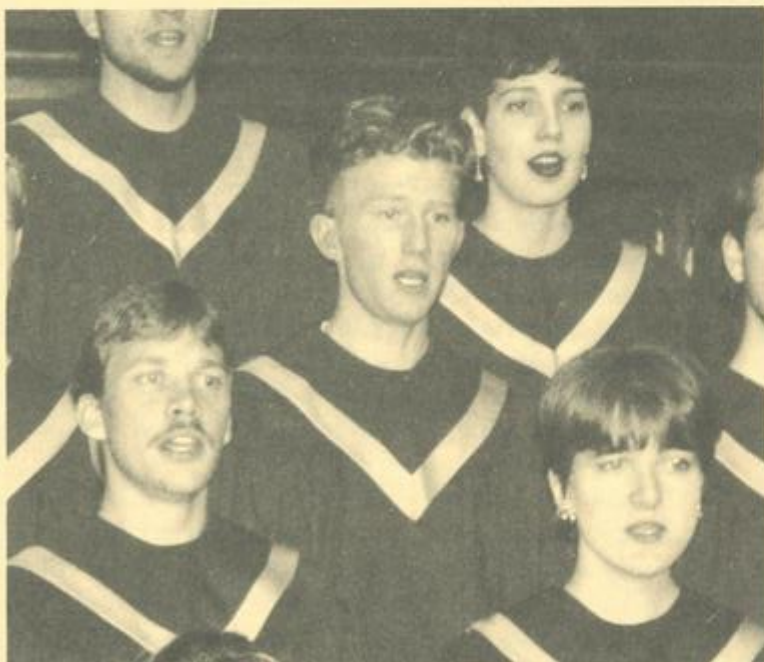
CULTURAL EVENTS



Richmond Hill artist Al. Groen presented his show *HORIZONS* in the Redeemer College Art Gallery in November. Groen achieved startling effects in his work, building abstracted landscapes from beaten tin.

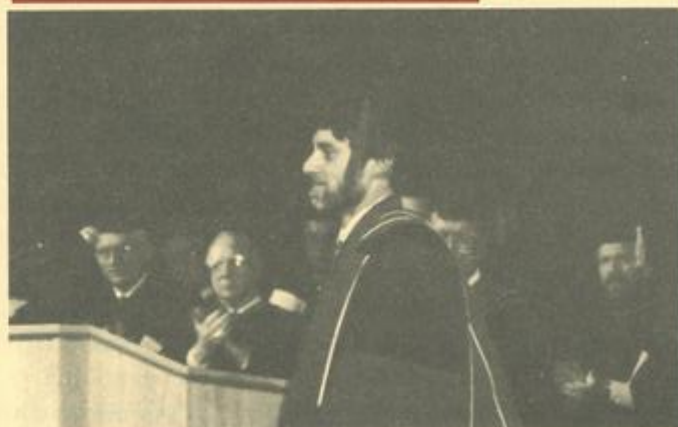


Pericles grieves over his (apparently) dead wife in this fall's production PERICLES PRINCE OF TYRE by William Shakespeare. Besides being Redeemer's first full-length, Shakespearean play, PERICLES was notable for its innovative use of sets and live music. Stewart Brown of the Hamilton Spectator gave the show a glowing review: "(director Ray) Louter and his Redeemer cast and crew have fashioned a bold, simple staging...so generally delightful that it makes this dramatic excursion eminently rewarding."



The Concert Choir's Christmas Concert, featuring Vivaldi's *GLORIA*, Buxtehude's *IN DULCI JUBILO*, and carols, packed the Redeemer auditorium on December 7, 1994. This concert, including orchestra and the Redeemer College Chorus, was conducted by professor Christiaan Teeuwssen. One former chorister said of the concert: "We never sounded that good. This choir just gets better!" The choir will be touring South-Western Ontario in late February/early March with a homecoming concert March 5. Don't miss their Spring Concert with the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, April 18, 1995.

PRAISES



On October 21, 1994, Dr. Justin Cooper, was inaugurated to the office of President of Redeemer College in a ceremony in the auditorium. He delivered an address entitled "Faithful Scholarship in a Post-Modern Context."

NEWS BRIEFS



Redeemer hosted a record number of prospective students on a recent New Horizons weekend—shown here digging in to sundaes with the help of Admissions staff. 82 high school students turned up to check Redeemer out. They stayed in dorms, saw a coffeehouse, and went to PERICLES, PRINCE OF TYRE. As they left, many were heard to say "see you next year!"



President Cooper shares a joke with Fred Eringa, a participant of Redeemer's annual Senior Citizens Day. This day, along with the MILK & HONEY event in the summer, allows Redeemer to keep in contact with this important part of our community. For more information about the MILK & HONEY FESTIVAL, contact the college.



Hendrik (Henry) deKorte has signed on as Redeemer's new Director of Community Relations. Of his new position, Henry says: "I have learned through experience that God cares, is involved, and has a purpose, and I consider it a blessing to work in an environment where both staff and students share in this outlook."



Congratulations to Sylvia Keesmat, the first of Redeemer College's graduates (1986) to earn a Doctoral Degree. In October, she received her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Great Britain at the University of Oxford. Since then, she has been inaugurated as a Senior Member in Biblical Studies and Hermeneutics at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto.



Redeemer students Wendy Willmore and Brian Boesterd are congratulated by Peter Melnichuk, a representative of Industry Canada in a special ceremony in President Cooper's office. Brian and Wendy won renewable Canada Scholarships for \$2500 to encourage them to develop their skills in science and engineering.



Claudia DeHaan



Tammy Dibbits

RECENT GRADUATES JOIN ADMISSIONS STAFF

'94 Graduates Tammy Dibbits and Claudia DeHaan join the drive for more students in 1995.

by Dennis Van Staaldunin

Two recent veterans of life at Redeemer have joined the team that promotes that life to high schoolers and other college-bound students. Tammy Dibbits and Claudia DeHaan have been working hard since signing on this fall. Since they've come aboard at the busiest time of the year for Admissions, both have been on the road a lot, visiting schools and university fairs, spreading the word about an Ontario school that offers Christian university degrees. Claudia has been travelling around Ontario, Tammy moving farther afield to Pennsylvania and British Columbia. Although they've been spending long hours on the road, and although they know that it will be a while before they see the fruits of their labours, they're happy that their unique perspective as former students will help Redeemer to get bigger and better. Why did they come back to work at Redeemer College? Tammy says it best: "It's a cause I believe in."

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(1837-1920), Dooyeweerd based his own work on the conviction that all theoretical thought has religious underpinnings, even that claiming explicitly to be nonreligious. In his three-volume magnum opus, *A New Critique of Theoretical Thought* (Presbyterian and Reformed, 1953-1958), Dooyeweerd engages in dialogue with the major trends in western thought, subjecting them to what he calls a "transcendental critique," or a searching analysis of their religious bases.

Dooyeweerd labels his own alternative a "Christian philosophy" in that it openly strives to be fully biblical and to conform consistently to the basic biblical motive of creation, fall into sin, and redemption in Jesus Christ. In the *New Critique* and other works, he sets forth a philosophy on which can be built distinctively Christian approaches to the full range of academic disciplines, including the humanities, the social sciences and the natural sciences. These in turn are meant to deepen our reflection on life as a whole and thereby equip us to live obediently as citizens of God's kingdom.

Redeemer College was chosen as the location for the Centre because its educational vision is nourished by the same Reformed tradition that produced Dooyeweerd's philosophy. According to Kuyper's famous dictum, there is not a single square inch of creation of which Jesus Christ does not say "mine." The singular achievement of Dooyeweerd is that he fleshed out this fundamental insight of Kuyper in a systematic fashion. Thus, shortly before his death, Dooyeweerd observed: "Religiously I stand in the Reformation stream which really starts from the basic biblical idea that all of life is under the sovereignty of God—and as far as the Christian faith is concerned, that the whole of human life in this world is under the rule of Christ."

The official opening of the Centre featured a number of persons associated academically or personally with Dooyeweerd, including the philosopher's son, Herman, Jr., a resident of Toronto and President of The Herman Dooyeweerd

Foundation. The keynote speaker was Dr. H. Evan Runner, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Runner is best known as the mentor and leading light of the college's Groen Club, named for Kuyper's predecessor, Guillaume Groen van Prinsterer (1801-1876). It was in the Groen Club, during the 1950s and '60s, that Runner sparked an interest in his students in Dooyeweerd's philosophy

and, more generally, persuaded them that the whole of life is religiously-directed. Many of his former students now teach at Redeemer and other Christian universities in North America. Runner spoke at the opening on "The World-Historical Importance of Dooyeweerd's Christian Philosophy."

The Centre's first director is Dr. Daniël F.M. Strauss, a professor of philosophy on leave from the Uni-



Dooyeweerd Centre director Daniël Strauss is presented with a full-colour poster commemorating the centre's opening by Redeemer College student Jon Andreas, who commissioned the poster. The painting of Hermen Dooyeweerd is by Magnus VerBrugge.

versity of the Orange Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa. Strauss is perhaps the foremost living authority on Dooyeweerd's philosophy. He is enthusiastic about the prospect of increasing its profile on this continent and sparking broader interest in a theoretical approach that brings all of life explicitly into the service of God. As Paul the apostle puts it, we are to "be transformed by the renewing of [our] minds" (Romans 12:2), and Dooyeweerd's philosophy provides a significant way of putting this into practice. ➡

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FACULTY UPDATE

Books:

Jacob P. Ellens published *Religious Routes to Gladstonian Liberalism: The Church Rate Conflict in England and Wales, 1832-1868*, (Penn. State Press) 1994.

Presentations:

John Byl gave a talk on October 5, entitled "Defining Athletics and Its Impact on Teaching and Coaching," and participated in a meeting of Physical Education specialists at the Society of Christian Schools in British Columbia. ♦ From October 6 to 7, he led four workshops at the NWCSI-CTABC Convention in Lynden, Washington on the topics "Organizing Successful Tournaments," "Teaching Elementary Physical Education" (twice), and "Sportsmanship: What is It? Who Cares?"

Justin Cooper presented an invited paper entitled "The State, Transnationalism and International Justice" at a conference on *International Morality and the Search for a New World Order*, on Sept. 30 at Calvin College.

Jacob P. Ellens presented an invited paper, "Which Freedom For Early Victorian Britain?" at a conference on *Religious Liberty in Europe and the Americas in the 19th Century* at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, October 27-30.

Jim Payton led a workshop entitled "Communicating with the Kids in Catechism Class" at the 37th Annual Ontario Christian Reformed Church School Convention, held at Redeemer College on September 17. ♦ On October 20 - 23, he presented a paper entitled "The Significance of Matter in the Iconoclastic Controversy," at the 20th Annual Byzantine Studies Conference, held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. ♦ On October 27-29, he presented a paper, "Medieval Disputations and Reformation Expectations," at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Toronto.

James Rooks spoke at the membership meetings of the Georgetown District Christian School and the Dunnville Christian School on "Promoting reading in our families" on November 10 and 21.

Kevin VanderMeulen spoke on the topic "Skew rank decompositions" on October 18 at the Discrete Math Seminar at McMaster University.

Harry Van Dyke gave a seminar on "Canadian History in Christian Perspective" at the ACSI convention, Park Bible Church, Burlington on November 4.

Al Wolters delivered a paper entitled "A Semantic Study of *authentēs* and its Derivatives" at the annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Lisle, Illinois on November 18. ♦ On November 21 he delivered a paper entitled "God's Arrow (Zechariah 9:14) and Halley's Comet" at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Chicago, Illinois.

Articles:

John Boersema published the following articles in *Reformed Perspective*: "The Industrial Reformation," summarized translation (from Afrikaans) of an article by J.H. de Vries included in *Windows on Business Ethics*, September 1994; "The Responsible Organization," summarized translation (from Afrikaans) of an article by E. Schuurman included in *Windows on Business Ethics*, July/August 1994; "Window on Business Ethics?" Review of *Windows on Business Ethics: A Challenge for Business*, Potchefstroom University for Christian Education, 1993, July/August 1994, and as "Windows on business ethics needs further cleaning" in *Christian Courier*, September 2, 1994.

John Byl published "The 23rd International Children's Games," in *ICHPER.SD Journal*, Vol XXXI, No. 1, Fall 1994, pp. 8,9.

Justin D. Cooper published "An Assessment of David Mitrany's Functional World Order," in Jonathan Chaplin and Paul Marshall, eds., *Political Theory and Christian Vision*, Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 1994.

James Doelman published "A King of Thine Own Heart: The English Reception of King James VI and I's *Basilikon Doron*," in *Seventeenth Century*, 9 (1994): 1-9.

David Koyzis published "Hannah Arendt on *Polis*, Nation-State and Federation," in Jonathan Chaplin and Paul Marshall, ed., *Political Theory and Christian Vision* (Lanham, Maryland: University Press of America, 1994); a review of Eric R. Wolf, ed., *Religious Regimes and State Formations: Perspectives from European Ethnology*, in *Christian Scholar's Review*, 23 (no. 4) 1994; "Ways of Singing the Psalms in Worship," in Robert E. Webber, ed., *Music and the Arts in Christian Worship*, book one (Nashville: Star Song, 1994), pp. 312-314.

James Rooks published "My son has dyslexia: A letter to a friend about phonemic awareness," in the *Christian Educators Journal*, October 1994.

Betty Spackman published "Kijken naar kunst en meer dan dat" in *Uit de kunst: christelijk geloof en beeldende kunst*, (CAHIER, 21, jrg. 8, nr.1, Christelijk Studiecentrum, Amsterdam) June 1994, pp. 17-24.

John Vriend published "Eden Despoiled: A Questionable Experiment in School Choice," in *Journal of Research on Christian Education*, Vol. 3, No. 2, Autumn 1994, pp. 217-232.

Al Wolters published: ♦ "Zohar haraqia' (Daniel 12:3) and Halley's Comet," in *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 61 (1994) pp. 111-120. ♦ "Anthropoi eudokias (Luke 2:14) and 'nsy rsw'n (4Q416)," in *Journal of Biblical Literature* 113 (1994) pp. 291-292. ♦ "History and the Copper Scroll," in Michael O. Wise et al., eds., *Methods of Investigation of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Khirbet Qumran Site. Present Realities and Future Prospects* (Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Vol. 722, 1994) pp. 285-298. ♦ "Ode to the Valiant Woman," in H. Roukema, *Thy Will Be Done: Old Testament Studies Grade 9-10*, Ancaster: Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools, 1994, [versification of Proverbs 31:10-31]. ♦ "Creatio ex nihilo in Philo," in W. E. Helleman, ed., *Hellenization Revisited*, Lanham Maryland: University Press of America, 1994.

Other:

John Boersema, a member of the *Disaggregated Disclosures Advisory Group* of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and the US Financial Accountants Standards Board, attended a meeting of the entire membership on September 16, 1994 in Norwalk, Connecticut. ♦

Looking for a Speaker?

Redeemer College faculty members are available for speaking engagements.

Contact the Community Relations Department for a Speakers Bureau Booklet listing speakers and topics.